(b) the total amount spent on it so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) A new terminal building has already been commissioned at Jaipur airport on 1st July, 2009. The work related to extension of runway from 9170 ft. to 10500 ft. has been initiated.

(b) The amount spent on it so far is Rs. 107.76 crores.

Runway at Khandwa

†3348. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the runway situated at Khandwa airport is fit for flights at present;

(b) the amount sanctioned and spent for making the runway fit for flights; and

(c) by what time the remaining amount would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): No, Sir.

(b) As this airport is not in operation for last two decades, no amount has been sanctioned for this airport. However, the nearest Indore airport is at a distance of 130 kms.

(c) Does not arise.

Pre-paid taxi service at IGI Airport

3349. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that at the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) the passengers after securing the pre-paid taxi tokens are on the mercy of taxi drivers to reach their destinations because they are not ready to carry short distance passengers;

(b) whether during night even after paying the night charges, the passengers are forced to pay additional charges;

(c) if so, what action Government would take against the erring officials and taxi drivers; and

(d) whether pre-paid taxi service would be computerized and registration numbers of the taxis would be printed on the bill/token to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) A few complaints of harassment of passengers including overcharging and refusal to commute short distance during hiring of pre-paid taxis have been received by the Delhi Police.

(c) Strict enforcement action is taken by Delhi Police against the erring taxi driver, if found indulging in refusal/misbehaving with passengers at IGI Airport.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) Delhi International Airport Private Limited, in coordination with Delhi Police, is in the process of implementing a Cab Management System which is to be installed by August, 2009. The salient features of the system are: to register all the pre-paid taxis at both the terminals, to restrict the entry of only authorised taxi and taxi drivers to the system, issue of Bio-metric cards to the drivers after verification of their character and antecedents by the local police and issuance of pre-paid slip which will be readable by the system. The objective of the system is to have a connectivity between the vehicle driver and the passenger.

Meeting between US FAA & DGCA

3350. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of United States Federal Aviation Administration (USFAA) visited India and met Director General of Civil Aviation;

(b) if so, whether the team is following international safety standards set up by International Civil Aviation Organisation;

(c) if so, whether US team visited for consultation; and

(d) if so, what was the outcome of discussions held with US team and whether any agreement has been reached in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The United States of America's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) team carried out a reassessment of Directorate General of Civil Aviation's (DGCA) safety oversight capabilities under the International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) programme and followed the international safety standards set up by International Civil Aviation Organisation.

(d) DGCA has taken action on all concerns raised by the FAA's IASA team.

Ticketing business of Air India

3351. SHRI D. RAJA:
SHRI R.C. SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India has decided to outsource its entire ticketing business to a competitor company; and

(b) if so, the detail of the terms and conditions of this deal and the reasons for taking such a decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. All the ticketing business for Air India is being done in-house.

(b) Does not arise.